THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) No State Government has reported scarcity of liquid milk at present.

(b) The Government promulgated the Milk and Milk Product Order on 9th June, 1992 which, among other things, provides for temporary restrictions on the distribution of liquid Milk or the production of any milk product by any class or category of producers for a specified period of time not exceeding 90 days at a time.

(c) The Government has not confiscated milk powder in any State.

(d) At the request of the State Governments and Union Territory Administration concerned, the Government has issued Orders imposing temporary restrictions for specified periods on production of milk products in Madhya Pradesh, Haryana and Delhi and export of liquid milk from Gujarat and Rajasthan.

Cooperatives in Dairy Industry

3289. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:

SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have declared its policy to give preferential treatment to Cooperatives in dairy industry while delicensing the Dairy Industry last year;

(b) if so, the details of such preferences and guidelines followed by Government in giving such preferenies; and

(c) whether healthy competition would prevail between private and co-perative dairies when preferential treatment is given to cooperative dairies by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) and (b) The Milk and Milk Product Order issued by the Government on 9th June, 1992 under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 has made provisions which give preferential treatment to co-operatives in the dairy sector the details of which are given in the statement (*See* below.)

(c) No assessment has been made in this regard.

Statement

Provisions of preferential treatment to Co-operatives in Dairy Sector under the Milk and Milk Product Order, 1992

1. There are two representatives from the co-operative dairy sector on the Milk and Product Advisory Board under the provisions of paragraph 3 of the Milk and Milk Product Order, 1992.

2. In specifying terms and conditions for registration under the Order, the registering authority shall have regard to, among others, the policy of preferential treatment to the co-operataives sector under the provisions of paragraph 5 of the Order.

3. Where the registering authority considers it necessary in the public interest, by reason of shortage?(of in the milkshed or of surplus milk in an area outside milkshed area, it may permit the holder of the registration certificate to collect or procure ilk from outside the milkshed, for such period not exceeding ninety days, as it may specify on that behalf and the collection of milk from outside the milkshed shall be made only through co-operative milk federation or union, at a price mutually agreed upon, and in the absence of any such agreement, at the price at which the co-operative federation or union concerned sells milk to any other co-operative federation or the union under the provisions of paragraph 11 of the Order.